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EXAMINER
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FABER, DAVID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/03/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/766,723

Applicant(s)

MARKEL, STEVEN O.

Examiner

David Faber

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 7 February 2007.
2. Claims 1, 8-11, 13-17, and 26 have been amended.
3. Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14-17, and 26 are independent claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
6. Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14-17, and 26 recite the limitation "locally-defined" in line 4. It is unclear to the Examiner of what or how the limitation "locally-defined" means or is defined; therefore making the claim vague and indefinite.
7. Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 17 recites the limitation "a descriptor" in lines 5, 7 and/or 9. The Examiner is unsure if the descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2. Thus, there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
8. Claims 1, 10, 17, and 26 recites the limitation "said descriptor on-content" or "the descriptor content" in lines 6, 7, or 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

9. Claim 3 recites the limitation "descriptors" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

10. Claim 6 recites the limitation "a descriptor" in line 2. The Examiner is unsure if the descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2 of claim 1. Thus, there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

11. Claim 8 recites the limitation "a descriptor", "said descriptor", and "the descriptor" in lines 5, 8, and 12 and "the enabled descriptor" in line 7. The Examiner is unsure if the element descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

12. Claims 8, 11, and 13 recite the limitation "the selected descriptor on-content" in lines 10, 11, or 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

13. Claim 8 recites the limitation "the selected on-content descriptor" in line 14. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

14. Claims 9, and 12 recite the limitation "said selected descriptor" in lines 3-4, or 2. The Examiner is unsure if the element descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2 of claim 8, and of claim 11. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

15. Claim 11 recites the limitation "the enabled descriptor" in line 9. The Examiner is unsure if the element descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined

on-content descriptor in lines 1-2. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

16. Claim 13 recites the limitation "enabled descriptor" in line 9, and 11. The Examiner is unsure if the element descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

17. Claim 14 recites the limitation "the on-content descriptor" in line 18. The Examiner is unsure if the element on-content descriptor is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2 or is depending to the already defined first on-content descriptor in line 7. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

18. Claims 15 and 16 recite the limitation "an on-content descriptor" in line 7. The Examiner is unsure if the descriptor is its own identity or is depending to the already defined on-content descriptor in lines 1-2. Thus, there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

19. Claim 17 recite the limitation "the on-content descriptor" or "said on-content descriptor" in lines 10, 13, and 17. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

20. Claim 26 recites the limitation "the on-content descriptor" or "said on-content descriptor" in lines 10, 13, and 17. Thus, there are insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

21. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

22. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 17-19, 22, and 26 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shah et al (WO 01/20466 A1, published 3/22/2001).

As per independent Claim 1, Shah et al discloses a method comprising:

- receiving said streaming media presentation (Page 5, lines 18-21; Page 6, lines 20-22)
- accessing locally defined descriptor information and determining if a descriptor is enabled; (Page 10, lines 9-25 : An author accesses different type of annotations for videos , and inputs and defines which video annotations are to be included into the video through an control stream. Since an author programmed instructions for annotations to appear on the video, the author locally determines and defines for the annotations when to appear when the video stream is synchronized with the control stream and is played. (Page 12, line 15 – Page 14, line 5)
- rendering said descriptor on-content in the streaming media presentation if a descriptor are enabled; (Page 13, line 29-Page 14, line 5)
- positioning the on-content descriptor with an association with a streaming media image element. (Page 13, line 29-Page 14, line 5: A GIF has been

programmed to be "swimming" within the stream boundaries in the video sequence contain the stream; in addition, Page 15, lines 22-24; Page 14, lines 27-Page 15, line 11: Information block appears to another specific location in the video wherein the block contains text information relevant to the streaming image element. Page 13, lines 24-28)

- executing a software routine if an interactive access point is enabled for said descriptor and a corresponding user input is received; and (Page 14, line 6-10: The user moves the mouse over the GIF, and as a result, the GIF is terminated where a signal is sent to the server. The server responds with new data where a new GIF appears on the video. In order for signals to transfer and GIF to appear/disappear, software functionality is necessary.)
- providing a function associated with the on-content descriptor if the software routine is executed, the function including at least one of scrolling information, accessing a website, accessing a separate media stream, or saving displayed information; and (Page 15, lines 1-7: discloses a web page being access or scrolling (moving) text)
- discontinuing display of the descriptor if an end display condition has occurred. (Page 14, lines 9-22: Discloses multiple displays of annotations disappearing after a condition has been met: (1) A mouse-over which results of the original GIF to terminated for a new GIF to appear in its place, (2) A GIF terminated based on timed condition if user fails to responds. (3) A

sequence where a GIF is programmed to terminate and a new GIF is to reappear, automatically when a scene changes.

- the on-content descriptor comprises text information related to the streaming media image element (Page 14, lines 27-Page 15, line 11: Information block appears to another specific location in the video wherein the block contains text information. Page 15, lines 22-24)

As per dependent Claim 3, Shah et al discloses a method further comprising:

- rendering an indication that descriptors are available and enabling said descriptors if a predetermined user response to said indication is received. (Page 15, lines 20 - 30: Discloses an icon and/or text regarding weather is available when clicked or mouse-over. When the user performs either action that corresponds to the annotation, other icons, logos, or GIFs appear to the user response displaying information about the weather based on the user response indication. )

As per dependent Claim 4, Shah et al discloses a method where said indication is a icon displayed within a streaming media image (Page 13, line 29-Page 14, line 5: Discloses a fish fin being displayed; Page 15, lines 20 – 30: discloses text icon indicating a weather update)



As per dependent Claims 6 and 7, Shah et al discloses a method further comprising :

- Rendering an association indicator wherein the association indicator comprises changing the location of said association indicator to reflect a change in position of an image element. (Page 10, lines 12-19: Discloses associating a moving image entity in a primary video with a hyperlink by tracking the image and including coordinates of the image entity in the annotation data. In addition, icons may move with the tracked entities thus change location based on the position of the moving image entity.)

As per dependent Claim 8, Claim 8 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al discloses a method comprising:

- Receiving pointing device position information and selecting the enabled descriptor from said locally-defined descriptor information using said pointing device position information (Page 14, lines 5-22: Discloses a viewer moving a cursor over the GIF that interacts with the hyperlink. When the cursor mouse-overs the GIF, a signal is sent to the server in which sends a new signal to display a new GIF. In the other words, when the user moves the cursor over the GIF, the user is selecting the descriptor and at the same time receiving the cursor position information indicating the cursor was over the GIF in order for the mouse-over to occur.)

- rendering the selected descriptor on-content in the streaming media presentation in a predetermined position associated with the streaming media image element, such that the descriptor does not obscure important streaming media presentation content; (FIG 3C-D; Page 14, line 27 – Page 15, lines 9-15, 22-25: Programmed to be placed moving around within set boundaries within the image. In addition, when the information block appears, it does not obscure from important streaming media presentation content since its placed a specified location.)

As per dependent Claim 9, Claim 9 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claim 17, Claim 17 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al discloses a unit that receives a streaming media presentation. (Page 13, lines 24-29). In addition, it is necessary for computer program code to be present in order for the receiver to perform the functionality of Claim 1's limitations.

As per independent Claim 18, Claim 18 recites similar limitations as in Claims 1 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al discloses executing a hotlink if said interactive access point is enabled and said interactive access point event as occurred. (Page 14, lines 1-11)

As per independent Claim 19, Claim 19 recites similar limitations as in Claims 8 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claim 22, Claim 22 recites similar limitations as in Claims 6, 7 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claim 26, Claim 26 recites similar limitations as in Claims 1, and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

23. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

24. Claim 5 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al (WO 01/20466 A1, published 3/22/2001).

As per dependent Claim 5, Shah et al disclosed his embodiments of hyperlink authoring involve interactive, animated graphics, (Page 10, lines 20-25) but fails to specifically disclose said indication is an audible signal. However, Shah et al discloses that hyperlink authoring may also include audio annotations (Page 3, lines 11-16) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have Shah et al's method use audio annotations since it would have provide the benefit of audio used to describe elements within the media or set used the overall tone.

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25. Claims 10-12, 20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al (WO 01/20466 A1, published 3/22/2001) in further view of Shema et al (US Patent #6,766,331, filed 10/4/2001).

As per independent Claim 10, Claim 10 recites similar limitations as in Claim 8, and is similarly rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al discloses a method comprising receiving a user input (Page 14, lines 6-8: receiving an input by a mouse-over, or by clicking )

However, Shah et al fails to specifically disclose highlighting a streaming media image element. However, Shema et al discloses a practice when an element or area in a graphics that is visually emphasized when a mouse brushes over the area or element. (Col. 8, lines 5-14) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the Applicant's invention to have combined Shah et al method's with Shema et al's method since it would provided the benefit of focusing on hotspots to bring attention to that particular element during presentations.

As per independent Claim 11, Claim 11 recites similar limitations as in Claims 8 and Claims 10 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per dependent Claim 12, Claim 12 recites similar limitations as in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claims 20 and 23, Claims 20 and 23 recite similar limitations as in Claims 11 and 17 and are similar rejected under rationale.

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26. Claims 13 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al (WO 01/20466 A1, published 3/22/2001) in further view of Efrat et al (US Patent #6,570,587, filed 6/25/1997).

As per independent Claim 13, Claim 13 recites similar limitations as in Claims 8 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Furthermore, Shah et al discloses a method comprising receiving a user input (Page 14, lines 6-8: receiving an input by a mouse-over, or by clicking) and Receiving pointing device position information related to a displayed cursor (Page 14, lines 5-22: discloses moving the screen cursor (FIG 3))

However, Shah et al fails to specifically disclose altering the appearance of the displayed cursor if the pointing device position information of said displayed cursor corresponds to a streaming media image element for which a descriptor is available. However, Efrat et al discloses using a playing of a video when a user places a pointer over a hotspot in the video, the cursor may change. (Column 3, lines 57-64; Column 28, lines 1-5)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the Applicant's invention to have combined Shah et al method's with Efrat et al's method since it would provided the benefit of identifying hotspots that contain hyperlinks in multimedia.

As per independent Claim 21, Claim 21 recites similar limitations as in Claims 13 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

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27. Claims 14-16, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al (WO 01/20466 A1, published 3/22/2001) in further view of Java Boutique (Java Boutique, "The Java Boutique -Imap.java", pp1-2).

Examiner provides screen printouts of IMap.java imagemap as evidence to overcome the limitations and additionally provides a printout of IMap page on Java Boutique, May 14, 1998, as evidence that IMap page was widely available as of May 14, 1998.

As per independent Claim 14, Claim 14 recites similar limitations as in Claims 1 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al fails to specifically disclose displaying a first streaming media image element identifier in a first screen position within the streaming image and displaying the first on-content descriptor associated with said first media image element in a second screen position associated with the first streaming media image element and within the streaming media image presentation. However, Java Boutique discloses an imagemap created by Mike Hall that displays multiple shapes as element identifiers throughout the image. (Page 1) When a cursor is placed over one of the identifiers, a textual box displays in a different position adjacent to the identifier. (Page 3) It would have been obvious to have combined Shah et al's method with Java Boutique's disclosure of interactive imagemaps since it would have provided a user the ability to show descriptive or help information about a particular element adjacent or near the element in an image or video.

As per independent Claim 15, Claim 15 recites similar limitations as in Claims 14 and is similar rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al fails to specifically

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disclose displaying an on-content descriptor associated with said media image element identifier in a predetermined position at least partially overlapping said streaming media presentation and updating said on-content descriptor in response to a user input associated with said streaming media image element identifier. However, Java Boutique discloses an imagemap created by Mike Hall that displays multiple shapes as element identifiers throughout the image. (Page 1) When a cursor is placed over one of the identifiers, a textual box displays in a different position adjacent to the identifier that overlaps part of the image. (Page 4, 6) In addition, when one moves the cursor off the identifier, the text box disappears from overlapping the image. (Page 3-6) This process repeats for each identifier programmed to display text boxes when the cursor is placed on and off the identifiers. It would have been obvious to have combined Shah et al's method with Java Boutique's disclosure of interactive imagemaps since it would have provided a user the ability to show descriptive or help information about a particular element adjacent or near the element in an image or video.

As per independent Claim 16, Claim 16 recites similar limitations as in Claim 15 and is similarly rejected under rationale. Furthermore, Shah et al and Java Boutique fail to specifically disclose dynamically associating the streaming media image element identifier with a second streaming media image element in response to scene changes in the streaming media presentation, and updating the on-content descriptor to display information associated with the second streaming media image element. However, Shah et al discloses an embodiment where an interactive GIF that contains an hyperlink that disappears when a scene changes where a new interactive and animated GIF

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associating appears with the new scene. (Page 14, lines 7-22) In conjunction with Java Boutique's disclosure of graphics being identifiers that hyperlink to a text box when a cursor is over the graphic/identifier, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have combined Shah et al's scene change with new graphics with java Boutique's discloses of identifiers and textual boxes within imagemaps since it would have provided a user the ability to show descriptive or help information about an particular element adjacent or near the element in an image or video through multiple scenes.

As per independent Claim 24, Claim 24 recites similar limitations as in Claims 14 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

As per independent Claim 25, Claim 25 recites similar limitations as in Claims 15 and 17 and is similar rejected under rationale.

### ***Response to Arguments***

28. Applicant's arguments filed 7 February 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

29. In regards to claim 1 and its respective claims, Applicant argues Shah et al and the other cited references does not disclose "accessing locally-defined descriptor information, nor rendering and positioning the descriptor on-content in the streaming media presentation if the descriptor is enabled. However, the Examiner disagrees.

First, Applicant argues that Shah et al does not discloses locally-defined descriptor information. However, it is unclear to the Examiner of what or how locally-



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defined means or is to be defined in the claims; thus making it vague and definite to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Therefore, Examiner sees Shah et al disclosing accessing locally-defined descriptor information in Page 10, lines 9-25 wherein an author accesses different type of annotations for videos , and inputs and defines which video annotations are to be included into the video through an control stream. Since an author programmed instructions for annotations to appear on the video, the author locally determines and defines for the annotations when to appear when the video stream is synchronized with the control stream and is played. (Page 12, line 15 – Page 14, line 5)

Second, Shah et al discloses rendering and positioning the descriptor in the streaming media presentation if the descriptor is enabled. Shah et al discloses of a GIF being rendered that has been programming to be "swimming" wherein to be positioned swimming within the stream boundaries in the video sequence containing the stream. (Page 13, line 29-Page 14, line 5) Thus, Shah et al shows an animated GIF (descriptor) being rendered and positioned in the streaming media presentation if the descriptors are enabled.

### ***Conclusion***

**30. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

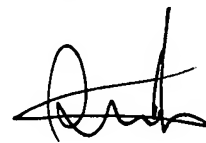
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Faber whose telephone number is 571-272-2751. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8am to 430pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong, can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Faber  
Patent Examiner  
AU 2178

DF



STEPHEN HONG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER